**Ponderosa Little League**

**Field Prep Guidelines**

\*Home team is responsible for pregame and postgame field prep responsibilities. If you do not have the following field prep equipment listed in your shed or box, contact your division coordinator. Rake, Tamp, Base plugs, dig out tool, hose, mat drag.

**Post Game / Post Practice**

* **Remove Bases -** Remove bases, place bases in shed or box and insert base plugs into holes.
* **Water Field** - Hose down skinned areas of infield, pitcher’s mound and home plate area.
* **Prep Mound** - Prep pitcher’s mound by raking all lose dirt up onto mound. Don’t rake dirt downhill away from mound! Fill holes at rubber and landing area with infield mix, lightly water and tamp solid. Give one last rake to smooth out and water down one last time.
* **Prep Plate -** Prep home plate area by lightly watering and raking all loose dirt toward home plate into batters and catchers boxes. Use flat side of rake to scrape loose dirt and grade batters boxes to identify holes and low spots. Push loose infield mix into holes and low spots and lightly water and tamp solid. Continue this process in all boxes until a smooth, firm area is established. Rake smooth and water down one last time.
* **Drag / Rake** - Drag infield with mat drag, either manually or with lawn tractor if available. On fully skinned infields (Camerado, Rescue, Rasmussen) start at the base of pitcher’s mound and circle mound with drag overlapping strokes until entire field is drug. Do not let drag come in contact with grass area making sure to keep drag a foot away from where the dirt meets the grass. Alternate drag patterns (counterclockwise,clockwise) each time you drag and alternate start and stop points so we don’t get a buildup of mix in the same areas. At Dave West, rake base cutouts and areas where infield grass meets dirt.
* **Clean Up** - Clean dugouts of all trash, replace all field prep equipment in shed/box.
* **Lock Up** – Lock and sheds/boxes and porta-potty

**Pregame**

* **Unlock** – Unlock equipment shed, boxes and porta-potties.
* **Water Field** – Give the field a good watering to hold down dust, soften playing surface and compact the top ¼ inch of infield mix.
* **Drag / Rake** – If field was not properly prepped the night before it may be necessary to drag and or rake mounds and batters boxes. If needed, see instructions above.
* **Chalk Field** – Use batter’s box templates to scribe out batter’s box lines and chalk box using as little chalk as possible. Do not stand on batter’s box templates! Place nail or spike in ground behind back corner of plate and extend chalk line past 1st and 3rd base into outfield grass. Pull string tight and chalk foul line making sure to chalk the fair side of the line.
* **Install Bases** – Remove base plugs and return them to the shed and install bases. Dig out tool may be required to remove loose dirt from base receptacle.